



JOSE McKINNEY & EVANS LLP

CUSTOMER NUMBER: 25267

2700 First Indiana Plaza
135 North Pennsylvania Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
(317) 684-5000

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty. Docket: 8266-1170

Applicants: Ferrand et al.

Invention: PATIENT CARE SYSTEM

Serial No.: 10/730,453

Filed: December 8, 2003

Examiner: Unknown

Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313

On February 25, 2004

A. Garland

A. Garland

Dated: February 25, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This statement is filed in the application identified above pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Applicants call attention to the art references within the knowledge of applicant and its attorney which are listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. No representation is intended that a complete search has been made or that no better art references are available. The filing of this statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability as defined in 1.56(b).

REMARKS

None of the art cited on the attached PTO Form 1449 is believed to disclose or suggest the invention recited in the claims of the above-identified application. It is therefore believed that the claimed invention is patentably distinguishable over these references.

All the references listed on the PTO Form 1449 were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in prior applications, which are relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120, including U.S. Application Serial No. 10/227,691, filed August 26, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,668,408, which is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/862,545, filed May 22, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,438,776, which is a continuation of patent application Serial No. 09/318,135, filed May 25, 1999, which is a continuation of patent application Serial No. 08/831,319, filed April 1, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,906,616, which is a divisional of patent application Serial No. 08/162,514, filed December 3, 1993, now U.S. Patent No. 5,802,640, which is a continuation-in-part of patent application Serial No. 07/864,881, filed April 3, 1992, now U.S. Patent No. 5,279,010, which is a continuation-in-part of patent application Serial No. 07/641,697, filed January 16, 1991, now U.S. Patent No. 5,138,729, which is a divisional of patent application Serial No. 07/511,842, filed April 20, 1990, now U.S. Patent No. 5,023,967, which is a continuation of patent application Serial No. 07/172,264, filed March 23, 1988. Thus, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of these cited references are not being supplied with this Information Disclosure Statement.

Please charge any fees that might be due in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Bose McKinney & Evans LLP's Deposit Account No. 02-3223. An extra copy of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

BOSE McKINNEY & EVANS LLP

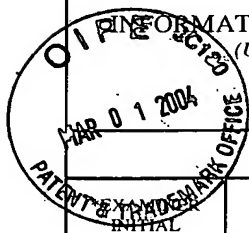


Charles W. Arnett
Registration No. 51,414

Indianapolis, Indiana
(317) 684-5000

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FORM PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO.: 8266-1170		SERIAL NO.: 10/730,453	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				APPLICANT(S): Ferrand et al.			
				FILING DATE: December 8, 2003		GROUP: Unknown	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE
	AA	20,580	06/1858	Parker			
	AB	99,455	02/1870	Menzer			
	AC	160,694	03/1875	Michel			
	AD	177,440	05/1876	Waddell			
	AE	194,811	09/1877	Essig			
	AF	204,104	05/1878	Stansel			
	AG	223,428	01/1880	Merrick			
	AH	254,084	02/1882	Wyman			
	AI	260,405	07/1882	Meier			
	AJ	268,145	11/1882	Taylor			
	AK	274,331	03/1883	Howard			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	AL	10705	1887	United Kingdom			
	AM	523334	07/1940	United Kingdom			
	AN	716981	01/1942	Germany			
	AO	2141333	12/1984	United Kingdom			
	AP	61-17789	01/1986	Japan			
	AQ	2607385	12/1988	France			
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AR	Brochure on the Pegasus Airwave System, published by Pegasus Airwave Limited of Portsmouth, Hampshire, England, Publication Date Unknown.					
	AS	Guyton, M.D., "Capillary Pressure", Textbook of Medical Physiology, 7 th Ed., 1986, W.B. Saunders Co., pp. 353-354.					
	AT	Hargest, "Problems of Patient Support: The Air Fluidised Bed as a Solution", pp. 269-275.					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE
	BA	279,188	06/1883	Rodebaugh			
	BB	283,021	08/1883	Raggio			
	BC	428,938	05/1890	Oxley			
	BD	535,935	04/1895	Donald			
	BE	919,025	04/1909	Kintz			
	BF	1,044,936	11/1912	Spencer			
	BG	1,198,687	09/1916	Williams			
	BH	2,004,860	06/1935	Ferrari et al.			
	BI	2,217,783	10/1940	Bell			
	BJ	2,401,999	06/1946	Wolfe			
	BK	2,674,745	04/1954	Burke, Sr.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	BL	0132203	01/1985	Europe			
	BM	4236195	05/1994	Germany			
	BN						
	BO						
	BP						
	BQ						
OTHER REFERENCES <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>							
	BR		Advertising brochure of Kinetics Concepts of San Antonio, Texas, "New Therapulse Pulsating Air Suspension Therapy", 12 pages, 1988.				
	BS		Meer, "The Tissue Therapist's Guide to Understanding Skin Destruction", Hospitals & Healthcare Intl., Sep./Oct. 1983, 2 pages.				
	BT		"The Effectiveness of Air Flotation Beds", Care Science and Practice, Nov. 1984, 2 pages.				
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	CA	2,707,137	04/1955	Hollstein			
	CB	2,757,997	08/1956	Lee			
	CC	2,768,807	10/1956	Cahen et al.			
	CD	2,899,980	09/1959	Loebel et al.			
	CE	2,980,392	04/1961	Greenwood			
	CF	3,063,066	11/1962	Peck et al.			
	CG	3,081,463	03/1963	Williams et al.			
	CH	3,195,151	07/1965	Boyer			
	CI	3,218,103	11/1965	Boyce			
	CJ	3,220,020	11/1965	Nelson			
	CK	3,220,022	12/1965	Nelson			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	CL						
	CM						
	CN						
	CO						
	CP						
	CQ						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	CR	Exton-Smith et al., "Use of the Air Wave System to Prevent Pressure Sores in Hospital", The Lancet, June 5, 1982, pp. 1288-1290.					
	CS	Le et al., "An In-Depth Look at Pressure Sores Using Monolithic Silicon Pressure Sensors", Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Dec. 1984, pp. 745-754.					
	CT	Guyton, M.D., "The Body Fluids and Kidneys", Textbook of Medical Physiology, 7 th Edition, W.B. Saunders Co., p. 354, 1986.					
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	DA	3,220,024	12/1965	Nelson			
	DB	3,237,212	01/1966	Hillenbrand et al.			
	DC	3,290,956	12/1966	Black et al.			
	DD	3,312,985	04/1967	Callaghan			
	DE	3,327,328	06/1967	Slivoski			
	DF	3,336,606	08/1967	Beitzel			
	DG	3,338,632	08/1967	Kleinsorge			
	DH	3,393,198	07/1975	Blair			
	DI	3,344,445	10/1967	Crawford			
	DJ	3,434,165	03/1969	Keane			
	DK	3,452,662	08/1969	Morrison			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	DL						
	DM						
	DN						
	DO						
	DP						
	DQ						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	DR		Stewart, "Why 32?", Pressure Ulcer Forum, vol. 2, no. 2, Spring 1987, Gaymar Industries, Inc., pp. 1-2.				
	DS		Agris et al., "Pressure Ulcers & Prevention and Treatment", Clinical Symposia, CIBA, vol. 31, no. 5, 1979, pp. 2-9.				
	DT		Husain, "An Experimental Study of Some Pressure Effects on Tissues with Reference to the Bed-Sore Problem", J. Path. Bact., vol. 66, 1953, pp. 347-350.				
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	EA	3,462,772	08/1969	Morrison			
	EB	3,484,878	12/1969	Nielsen			
	EC	3,540,479	11/1970	Thompson			
	ED	3,564,627	02/1971	Allard et al.			
	EE	3,608,102	09/1971	Goodman			
	EF	3,611,452	10/1971	Turko et al.			
	EG	3,611,453	10/1971	Lukken			
	EH	3,613,732	10/1971	Wilson et al.			
	EI	3,638,935	02/1972	Lelugas et al.			
	EJ	3,644,945	02/1972	Goodman et al.			
	EK	3,674,019	07/1972	Grant			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	EL						
	EM						
	EN						
	EO						
	EP						
	EQ						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	ER		Kosiak, "The Etiology of Decubitus Ulcers", Archives of Physical Medicine Rehabilitation, Jan. 1961, pp. 19-28.				
	ES		Mediscus, Advertisement for MONARCH Low Air-Loss Bed.				
	ET		Kinetic Concepts, Inc., Advertisement for KinAir.				
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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE
	FA	3,678,519	07/1972	Szucs			
	FB	3,724,003	04/1973	Ellwanger et al.			
	FC	3,724,004	04/1973	Behrens			
	FD	3,733,623	05/1973	Croxton			
	FE	3,742,448	06/1973	Motz			
	FF	3,742,527	07/1973	Johnston et al.			
	FG	3,754,749	08/1973	Lyon et al.			
	FH	3,757,193	12/1973	Pageot et al.			
	FI	3,822,425	07/1974	Scales			
	FJ	3,839,753	10/1974	Benoit et al.			
	FK	3,868,103	02/1975	Pageot et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE				TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	FL						
	FM						
	FN						
	FO						
	FP						
	FQ						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	FR		Kinetic Concepts, Inc., Advertisement for The Kinetic Treatment Table.				
	FS		Nelson Patent Handling Device, (NPHD), Advertisement.				
	FT		Bye-Bye Decubiti, Advertisement for Pneumatic Cushions and Mattresses.				
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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE
	GA	3,879,776	04/1975	Solen			
	GB	3,900,906	08/1975	Berthelsen			
	GC	3,909,858	10/1975	Ducker			
	GD	3,913,153	10/1975	Adams et al.			
	GE	3,977,664	08/1976	Mitchell et al.			
	GF	3,997,926	12/1976	England			
	GG	4,015,677	04/1977	Silva et al.			
	GH	4,025,972	05/1977	Adams et al.			
	GI	4,038,709	08/1977	Kerwit			
	GJ	4,099,276	07/1978	Hunt et al.			
	GK	4,100,630	07/1978	Klose et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	GL						
	GM						
	GN						
	GO						
	GP						
	GQ						
OTHER REFERENCES <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>							
	GR	Support Systems International, Clinitron Air Fluidized Therapy; Flexicair Low Airloss Therapy, Advertisements.					
	GS	63-page report of search done in the Official Gazette of related patents under Class 5 – Beds.					
	GT	Daly et al., "The Effect of Pressure Loading on the Blood Flow Rate of Human Skin", pp. 69-76, "Bedcare Biomechanics", Aug. 1975.					
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	HA	4,130,265	12/1978	Sakakibara et al.			
	HB	4,183,015	01/1980	Drew et al.			
	HC	4,193,149	03/1980	Welch			
	HD	4,195,829	04/1980	Reser			
	HE	4,205,669	06/1980	Hamann			
	HF	4,207,633	06/1980	Smith et al.			
	HG	4,224,706	09/1980	Young et al.			
	HH	4,225,125	09/1980	Lee			
	HI	4,225,989	10/1980	Corbett et al.			
	HJ	4,227,269	10/1980	Johnston			
	HK	4,255,824	03/1981	Pertchik			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	HL							
	HM							
	HN							
	HO							
	HP							
	HQ							

OTHER REFERENCES <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>		
	HR	Danzer et al., "Determination of the Capillary Blood Pressure in Man with the Micro-Capillary Tonometer", pp. 164-165, American Journal of Physiology, vol. 52, no. 1
	HS	Landis, "Micro-Injection Studies of Capillary Blood Pressure in Human Skin", Publication & Date unknown.
	HT	Kosiak, "Etiology and Pathology of Ischemic Ulcers", Archives of Physical Medicine Rehabilitation, Feb. 1959, pp. 62-69.

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	IA	4,269,387	05/1981	Reynolds et al.			
	IB	4,310,935	01/1982	Stevens et al.			
	IC	4,312,500	01/1982	Janssen			
	ID	4,356,577	11/1982	Taylor et al.			
	IE	4,371,996	02/1983	Nahum			
	IF	4,371,997	02/1983	Mattson			
	IG	4,376,316	03/1983	Mercier et al.			
	IH	4,409,695	10/1983	Johnston et al.			
	II	4,439,880	04/1984	Koncelik et al.			
	IJ	4,474,364	10/1984	Brendgord			
	IK	4,494,260	01/1985	Olds et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	IL						
	IM						
	IN						
	IO						
	IP						
	IQ						
OTHER REFERENCES <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>							
	IR		Scales, "Air Support Systems for the Prevention of Bed Sores", pp. 259-267.				
	IS						
	IT						
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	JA	4,525,885	07/1985	Hunt et al.			
	JB	4,534,078	08/1985	Viesturs et al.			
	JC	4,539,560	09/1985	Fleck et al.			
	JD	4,542,547	09/1985	Sato			
	JE	4,559,656	12/1985	Foster			
	JF	4,572,493	02/1986	Hubert			
	JG	4,592,104	06/1986	Foster et al.			
	JH	4,658,450	04/1987	Thompson			
	JI	4,669,136	06/1987	Waters et al.			
	JJ	4,685,159	08/1987	Octiker			
	JK	4,686,727	08/1987	Wilkinson			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	JL						
	JM						
	JN						
	JO						
	JP						
	JQ						
OTHER REFERENCES <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>							
	JR						
	JS						
	JT						
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	KA	4,722,105	02/1988	Douglas			
	KB	4,724,555	02/1988	Poehner et al.			
	KC	4,736,587	04/1988	Suzuki			
	KD	4,742,586	05/1988	Galumbeck			
	KE	4,745,647	05/1988	Goodwin			
	KF	4,747,171	05/1988	Einsele et al.			
	KG	4,751,754	06/1988	Bailey et al.			
	KH	4,768,249	09/1988	Goodwin			
	KI	4,792,428	12/1988	Swersey			
	KJ	4,793,428	12/1988	Swersey			
	KK	4,799,276	01/1989	Kadish			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	KL						
	KM						
	KN						
	KO						
	KP						
	KQ						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	KR						
	KS						
	KT						
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	LA	4,803,744	02/1989	Peck et al.			
	LB	4,821,348	04/1989	Pauna			
	LC	4,833,309	05/1989	Yomogida			
	LD	4,864,671	09/1989	Evans			
	LE	4,924,537	05/1990	Alsip et al.			
	LF	4,926,951	05/1990	Carruth et al.			
	LG	4,934,468	06/1990	Koerber, Sr. et al.			
	LH	4,935,968	06/1990	Hunt et al.			
	LI	4,945,590	08/1990	Ogura			
	LJ	4,949,413	08/1990	Goodwin			
	LK	4,949,414	08/1990	Thomas et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	LL							
	LM							
	LN							
	LO							
	LP							
	LQ							

OTHER REFERENCES <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>			
	LR		
	LS		
	LT		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

FORM PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO.: 8266-1170		SERIAL NO.: 10/730,453	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				APPLICANT(S): Ferrand et al.			
				FILING DATE: December 8, 2003		GROUP: Unknown	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE
	MA	4,953,244	09/1990	Koerber, Sr. et al.			
	MB	4,959,957	10/1990	Schmale et al.			
	MC	4,961,470	10/1990	Koerber, Sr.			
	MD	4,973,024	11/1990	Homma			
	ME	4,974,692	12/1990	Carruth et al.			
	MF	4,993,920	02/1991	Harkleroad et al.			
	MG	5,003,654	04/1991	Vrzalik			
	MH	5,035,016	07/1991	Mori et al.			
	MI	5,044,029	09/1991	Vrzalik			
	MJ	5,050,633	09/1991	Tarnay et al.			
	MK	5,121,513	06/1992	Thomas et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	ML							
	MM							
	MN							
	MO							
	MP							
	MQ							

OTHER REFERENCES <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>		
	MR	
	MS	
	MT	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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FORM PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO.: 8266-1170		SERIAL NO.: 10/730,453	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				APPLICANT(S): Ferrand et al.			
				FILING DATE: December 8, 2003		GROUP: Unknown	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE
	NA	5,172,781	12/1992	Hlavinka et al.			
	NB	5,173,977	12/1992	Carruth et al.			
	NC	5,261,725	11/1993	Rudolph			
	ND	5,269,388	12/1993	Reichow et al.			
	NE	5,276,432	01/1994	Travis			
	NF	5,279,010	01/1994	Travis			
	NG	5,323,500	06/1994	Roe et al.			
	NH	5,393,935	02/1995	Hasty et al.			
	NI	5,537,701	07/1996	Elliot			
	NJ	5,577,280	11/1996	Elliott			
	NK	5,906,016	05/1999	Ferrand et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	NL							
	NM							
	NN							
	NO							
	NP							
	NQ							

OTHER REFERENCES <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>			
	NR		
	NS		
	NT		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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